

MONTEREY COUNTY Labor News

VOL. XII—NO. 19

SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1950

WHOLE NO. 587

Ask 1950 Wage Hike To Bolster Economy

AFL Says Increase Needed to Forestall Unemployment

To avoid costly government expenditures for relief and a prospective business decline after mid-1950, the AFL has recommended that its affiliates seek wage increases of approximately 10 cents an hour during the coming year.

The recommendation is based on an exhaustive study of the U. S. economy by AFL statisticians and economists, and was contained in the AFL publication, Labor's Monthly Survey.

Survey said the year 1950 would develop a severe test of the free enterprise system and that industry must cooperate in reaching "our national goal of maintaining 'full' production and employment."

NEED RAISES

The report said that workers were going to need more purchasing power to achieve that goal, and published statistics and graphs to prove its contention.

"Industry," the report said, "could well afford to give wage increases without a further round of price increases by effecting production economies that would absorb the cost of raises."

The report cited statistics to prove that labor productivity had increased more than real wages, especially in the building industry. "AFL building trades this year," Survey said, "have raised wage rates, but labor costs have not generally increased. Building labor 'costs less despite higher hourly rates,' according to the Wall Street Journal, and 'it is increased productivity per man, most builders say, that is bringing the biggest saving in labor cost.'"

OUTPUT UP

"The Associated General Contractors recently surveyed 100 affiliated local associations with 5400 member firms and reported: 'Nearly four-fifths or four out of five

answering firms said there has been an increase in work productivity.'"

"Top government housing officials," the report continues, "commenting on the all time high record for home building in 1949, gave as a basic reason for production of more homes at lower prices: 'Greater production and efficiency by construction labor.'"

Survey said that this outstanding record in the building trades typifies the record of cooperation between management and labor that exists in thousands of industrial plants where the AFL is bargaining representative.

BUYING NEEDED

Survey warned that an anticipated slackening of 1950 purchases of new plant and equipment threatens a decline of 500,000 jobs in the building industry. These an-

ticipated losses may be somewhat offset by a large volume of public construction of schools, hospitals, housing, and roads.

But the increases would be needed if public buying power and employment were to remain at stable levels.

The daily press gave wide publicity to the recommendations for wage raises, but did not bother to break the report down on the basis of the AFL's economic reasoning.

Salinas Barbers Elect Officers

New officers were elected by Barbers Union 827 of Salinas last month with Secretary Nate H. Freeman returned to office.

Those elected include:

President—J. N. Butler Jr.
Vice President—Harmon Coley.
Secretary-Treasurer—N. H. Freeman, 36 West Alisal St., Salinas.
Recorder—D. L. Hill.
Guide—Raymond Finnis.
Guardian—Lucius Conine.

Pictures Record Success of Party

A series of excellent photographs depicting the crowd and entertainment at the recent Kiddies Christmas Party sponsored by the Central Labor Council in Salinas has been mounted by Laborers Union 272 and is hanging in the union's headquarters at the Salinas Labor Temple, pictorially recording the success of the party.

Painter Ill

Marvin Coffey, past member of Painters Union 1104 and now a painting contractor, suffered a heart attack recently and has been ordered by his physician not to work for some time. He has been released from the hospital but is confined to his home, according to Carl Lara, secretary of Painters Union 1104.

Subway Fare Up

New York—The 10c subway fare may jump to 13c, the New York Board of Transportation hinted, using wage increase demands of the Transport Workers Union (CIO) as an excuse.

Invite Truman to Gompers Dinner



Washington.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, left, and President William Green leave White House smiling after receiving President Truman's assurances to attend the Samuel Gompers Centenary Memorial Dinner on January 5 in Washington's Hotel Statler "if engagements and work permit."

NEW DRESS

With this issue your weekly labor paper starts the New Year in new dress.

Following a popular trend among weekly labor papers, each issue will appear in the standard tabloid size of five columns by 16 inches.

This does not mean that you will get less news than before for there will be twice as many pages as there were with the old 8 column style.

The new size will be easier to handle, easier to read, and will make the whole issue seem alive because news, both local and general, may be spotlighted throughout each issue.

We hope you like it.

TEACHERS MEET, ADOPT BY-LAWS

Salinas Teachers Union 1020 met recently at the home of George R. Harter, former business agent of Carpenters Union 925 and a carpentry instructor in the local apprenticeship program, the meeting featured by the adoption of a new constitution and by-laws.

President Don Tarr introduced Carl Lara, president of the Monterey County Central Labor Union at Salinas, who reported on labor council efforts to have the Salinas school board announce a "no discrimination" policy toward teachers who have joined the union. The board has refused to make a commitment, Lara reported.

Organizational matters were reported by Don Thompson, who has been heading a committee on community youth activities. It was announced that John Eklund, international president of the American Federation of Teachers, would speak in Salinas during February, according to union Secretary Fred Clayton.

Salinas Bar Signs Union

The Old Barn, downtown cocktail lounge in Salinas, has signed a new agreement with Bartenders Union 545, following a change of ownership, according to A. J. Clark, union secretary.

New owners are Ralph Neighbors and Henry Clay Long, both members of Local 545.

Farmer Speaks

Washington—All federal assistance programs for farmers should be graduated so as to give the most help to those who most need it, Natl. Farmers Union Legislative Secy. Russell Smith told a joint congressional subcommittee investigating problems of low income families.

PAINTERS 1104 REPORTS GAINS IN PAST WEEKS

Progress of Painters Union 1104 of Salinas during the past three weeks was reported by Carl Lara, union business manager, last week, highlights including:

Signing of the union's agreement by Contractor Pat Haley, who has applied for a union shop card and will hire painters from the union hall for work at the Laurel Park tract, where painting is expected to get into full swing in a short time.

Negotiations with Fuller Paint Co. of San Francisco, by mail, in regard to the new Glaziers Agreement, the paint firm seeking to pattern their contract after the San Jose area agreement with the union having already followed the San Francisco Bay Area agreement terms for the glazing industry. The union is awaiting reply from Fuller.

Start of painting in Santa Lucia Village with the Pacific Builders hiring painters from the union hall.

Painting of office buildings at the prison job in Soledad by the "Weathershield Co.," operated by J. T. Brown of Salinas.

Visit by Past President Van Buren of the State Painters Association and Manager H. F. Townsend of the Alameda County Painters Association at the last meeting of the Painters Joint Committee, both paid high tribute by the committee members.

Ask Indictment of 2 Bridges' Witnesses

San Francisco—The perjury trial of Harry Bridges, recessed until Jan. 3, kept his lawyers busy over the holidays.

They have mailed "documentation" to federal officials, which, they charge, proves that two witnesses who testified against Bridges "lied when they said Bridges was in New York City late in June or early in July 1936." On the basis of this evidence, they have asked the government to indict the two, Paul Crouch and Manning R. Johnson, for perjury.

Crouch and Johnson had testified that Bridges was at a Communist meeting in New York on either the last two days of the 1936 convention of the party or soon after the convention.

Bridges' lawyers sent government authorities 10 affidavits of persons who heard the ILWU leader speak at a Stockton, Calif. union meeting on June 27, 1936, when he was alleged to have been in New York. They also submitted union meeting minutes and newspaper reports of the session.

Clerks Move Headquarters

Retail Clerks Union 839 has moved headquarters to the Salinas Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., sharing office space with Painters Union 1104, according to Garold F. Miller, secretary of Local 839.

The union formerly had office space in the Glikbarg Building in downtown Salinas. Telephone number remains the same, 4938. Miller is secretary of the Monterey County Central Labor Union.

Seek Radio Station

New York.—Frederick F. Umhey, president of WFDR, radio station of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers, announced the filing of an application, with Federal Communications Commission for the facilities of radio station WINS.

Union Agents Hear Report On New Laws

Business agents of the Salinas area were to gather at the Salinas office of the California State Department of Employment to hear talks by Dudley Cameron, public information officer for the department, explaining new regulations regarding unemployment and disability insurance programs of the state.

Topics for discussion included required earnings for claims, filing procedure, reasons for denials of benefits, hospitalization benefits, appeals, forms used, and the private insurance programs.

Labor Council Meets Friday

First meeting of 1950 and first meeting since before the holidays will be held by the Monterey County Central Labor Union at Salinas Labor Temple at 8 p.m. Friday. Secretary Garold F. Miller and President Carl Lara join in an appeal for all delegates to attend to help speed through accumulated business.

Capital's Private Jobs Outrank U.S.

Washington.—Privately employed workers outnumber government workers in—of all places—Washington, D. C.

The Labor Department's Bureau of Employment Security estimates that on September 1, 1949, there were 373,800 privately employed workers in the District of Columbia labor-market area, which includes suburban areas of Maryland and Virginia.

Public employees in federal, district and local governments numbered 250,700.

To Call Pension Experts

New York.—The International Longshoremen's Association announced that it will call in the best technical advisers to work out details of the first pension system in the maritime industry won by the AFL union in its recent contract negotiations. The plan will be financed solely by employers but administered jointly by union and employers.

EDITORIALS

PLENTY TO DO AT HOME

If we are to maintain production and distribution on anything like an even keel here in the United States we better settle down to going all out for attending to our own business here at home instead of wasting our time and our substance trying to shape the policies of foreign countries.

We have not made such a howling success of this business of buying our way into the affairs of other lands by donations of goods and money. There is China, for instance, who has thus far received, nobody seems to know exactly how much, but the figures are variously estimated at from three to six billion dollars. This enormous sum of money was supposed to stop the revolution that was brewing in China but instead of crushing the new order it seems to have helped bring things to a head and the government we backed at last reports had fled the mainland of China to seek refuge in the island of Formosa.

Evidently our statesmen are novices at shaping the policies of other countries, even when we permit them to supply fabulous amounts of money to influence the tide of history. Still there are politicians in Congress who are clamoring for dumping still more of our money in the lap of as corrupt a regime as ever clogged progress in China, even now, after it has been driven off the mainland.

There is plenty for our elected lawmakers and executives to do right here at home to properly govern our own country, without going abroad for new fields in which to display our lack of talent and ability. We don't owe the grafters of China or of any other country anything. Let us see how well we can do our job here at home.

HELP EVERYBODY BUT US

What a strange mental attitude those members of Congress must have who during recent years have been doling out billions to foreign countries and to the various committees of Congress and at the same time have been enacting legislation to destroy our labor unions and wreck the conditions that labor has established.

What a contrast? Doling out billions to foreign countries, while a staggering national debt is being piled up on us and our children. Yes, spending our hard-earned money with the most reckless abandon for the supposed benefit of the people of foreign countries, while legislation has been enacted to impoverish and make helpless our labor organizations, which have done so much to better the lives of the masses of our people.

The conception so many of our present-day lawmakers in Washington seem to have, is that all labor is for is to be exploited to the limit of their endurance in order that a comparatively few already overrich big business interests may get still richer at the expense of the masses of our people.

The type that got in control of Congress in 1946 and still seems to be in control have shown a willingness to let the poorer people bear the brunt of our stupendous tax burden. They seem to be out to soak us plenty, while on the other hand they are willing to help most anybody else but us.

PREDICTIONS AND REALITIES

Newspapers and commentators, who are given to making predictions about happenings of the future, occasionally make such glaring errors that they completely discredit themselves. Since predictions so often are wrong it would seem to be a waste of time to pay any attention to them.

What is far more dependable is the actual record of what has taken place. There comes a time when results that have culminated into realities can be computed, totaled and compared with corresponding results of previous years. When such totals are favorable the fact that they are based on realities gives the added charm that they are reliable.

To be gloating over predictions that are wrong in so many instances seems like a waste of time. It is far more sensible to wait until expectations are realized and then sum up the actual totals.

After all the dreams that may be cooked up about events in the making, but still largely in the dream stage, most people would do well to wait till the expected events come to pass, and then total up the results. It serves little or no purpose to be gloating over rosy predictions that become all the more disappointing, when, as so often happens, such expectations are not realized.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE TAFT-HARTLEY ACT?

Following is one of a series of brief articles on what is wrong with the Taft-Hartley act prepared after studying reports from the President of every AFL International union. One will appear each week until the entire series has been run. The complete series is currently being distributed by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and other unions in pamphlet form:

No. 1 of a series compiled by the American Federation of Labor.

T-H HAS PUT ALL UNIONS UNDER A CLOUD OF SUSPICION

The Taft-Hartley law singles out labor unions in a manner that is not applied to any other type of organization under any other law. Before any union can utilize the machinery of the National Labor Relations Board, it must complete an official registration form, submit a copy of its constitution and file a financial statement. It must certify that a copy of this financial statement is regularly made available to all its members. In addition, each individual union officer must file an affidavit stating that he is not a member of the Communist Party. Employers are not required to register, file financial statements or indicate their opposition to communism, even though under the new Act employers are permitted directly to petition the Board for collective bargaining elections.

The objection to these requirements is not the extra work they involve (which is considerable) but rather the philosophy underlying them. At times this additional work has its humorous aspects. As one official of the Coopers' Union states: "It does appear to me that making out non-Communist affidavits is getting to be silly. In the period of a year I have sworn three times that I am not a Communist—once as a Local officer and twice as an International officer. If I am reelected this December in my Local Union and in April in the International, I will have to make out two more affidavits." The way in which unions are directly singled out distinctly implies that they are undemocratic, antisocial and perhaps even un-American organizations which must be closely regulated in the public interest.

In actual fact, unions are undoubtedly the most democratic of all institutions in public life today, certainly far more democratic than any large-scale corporation where management tightly controls the stockholders through the proxy system.

Almost without exception, union finances are carefully audited, and full statements covering receipts and expenditures made available not only to the membership, but to the general public. In this connection the Plumbers' Union reports:

"When the semi-annual reports of the International union were submitted to the National Labor Relations Board (to meet the filing requirements of the Taft-Hartley law), they were rejected because they provided too much information."

The requirement for a non-Communist affidavit has not meant

any change in the leadership of any AFL international union. The AFL has a long history of opposition to communist principles and to communist infiltration into the trade union movement.

We have no objection to the non-Communist oath providing it has nationwide application, but this provision, by singling out unions for this treatment, creates the impression that many unions are actually controlled by Communists. This is deeply resented. In the words of the Plasterers' Union:

"Long before the Taft-Hartley Act it was the policy of this union to combat the actions of the Communist Party. Now the Taft-Hartley Act makes us second-class citizens by forcing our officers to sign non-Communist affidavits."

Urge Ban on Cheap Foreign Farm Labor

(State Fed. Release)

The Federal Advisory Council of the U. S. Employment Security Bureau, meeting in Washington last week, voted to discontinue all programs for importing foreign agricultural labor in the year 1950. The resolution, which was the subject of considerable discussion, was proposed by James Brownlow, Secretary, Metal Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.

Another resolution offered by Clarence Mitchell, Washington representative of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, called upon the U. S. Employment Service to utilize the services of the National Farm Labor Union, AFL, and other bona fide farm labor organizations in recruiting and placing domestic agricultural workers, was also adopted.

H. L. Mitchell, president of the National Farm Labor Union, AFL, said if these two resolutions are put into effect by the Secretary of Labor, some of the most pressing problems of the nation's farm workers will be on the road to solution.

Former Bookbinder President Dies

Thomas P. Garrity, former president of the Intl. Bro. of Bookbinders (AFL) and for four years president of the Union Labor Party in San Francisco, has died at the age of 71.

Although he later became partner in a bookbinding firm, Garrity kept up his union membership until his death.

Fed. Boycott of Private Insurance Disability Gains

(State Fed. Release)

The Fishery Worker, official publication of the Cannery Workers Union of the Pacific, last week urged all members to withdraw from participation in the various private disability insurance systems in accord with the unanimous boycott action of such plans adopted at the 1949 convention of the California State Federation of Labor.

STATE PAYS MORE

More than 150,000 AFL workers have already requested boycott withdrawal forms from the State Federation office in San Francisco.

Department of Employment figures released this month revealed "long-haul" benefits of the state plan were superior to private systems through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949.

The average number of weeks compensated per case under the state plan was 10.1 weeks, or 44 per cent higher than the 5.7 weeks compensated under private plans.

Additionally, benefits paid per case under the state system averaged \$227.99, or 32 per cent higher than the \$157.73 paid by private carriers.

BLANKS READY

The boycott action was taken in response to the conduct of the insurance lobby at Sacramento which opposed every attempt made by the California State Federation of Labor to liberalize worker insurance benefits during the 1949 session of the California legislature.

Boycott withdrawal forms may be obtained by writing C. J. Haggerty, Secretary, California State Federation of Labor, 402 Flood Building, San Francisco 2, Calif.

Political Voice

Excerpts from a recent address by Governor Chester Bowles of Connecticut:

It has been labor that has acted as a spearhead in the fight for low-cost housing, for an improved educational system, for broadened social security, for the development of hydro-electric power programs, symbolized by the TVA.

Working people and their leaders have also seen that their traditional weapon, collective bargaining, was not enough. They saw that the basic issues of our economy and of our democracy are political and that labor, in order to take its rightful part in the decision of these issues, must speak with a political voice.

Today, our farmers and the members of organized labor are becoming increasingly aware of the basic similarity of their interests. There are few farmers indeed who do not understand that unemployment and low wages mean a rapidly dwindling market for farm products.

In the past few years the leadership of the new labor movement, staunchly supported by the rank and file, has become a progressive influence in our political, social and economic life far beyond the realm of wages and hours. The programs for which labor fights today are programs in which every farmer and indeed every businessman has a stake which they are rapidly beginning to appreciate.

We have here a national development which is terrifically significant and which has already accomplished much for the American people, and which promises even greater achievements in the years immediately ahead.

"From the League Reporter."

Hutcheson Weds Florida Woman

Lakeland, Fla.—William J. Hutcheson, president of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, was to be married to Mrs. Madeline Wilson here on Dec. 20.

Mrs. Wilson has been superintendent of the hospital at the Carpenters Home for 20 years.

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W. G. KENYON (Teamsters) FRED CLAYSON (Teachers)
DOROTHY BENNETT (Retail Clerks)

PRESS COMMITTEE AT MONTEREY
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AFL to Press World Fight On Poverty

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent AFL
News Service

New York.—President William Green said that organization of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in London will eventually mean "the lifting of standards of wages and working conditions in all democratic countries and therefore will be of great benefit to American workers."

He made his statement in a ship-board press conference on the Queen Mary which brought back the AFL president as well as Geo. Meany, secretary-treasurer; Chas. J. McGowan, president of Boilermakers Union; W. C. Dougherty, president of the National Association of Letter-Carriers, and Geo. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, all AFL vice presidents.

TRIUMPH

It was a triumphant return for the AFL leaders whose negotiations with other national trade union movements had averted any calamitous rifts and had led to the establishment of a democratic world labor federation with representation in 53 nations and able to speak in the name of 49,750,000 workers.

Working in close harmony with the AFL officials were the spokesmen for the Congress of Industrial Organizations. Two of their delegates, CIO Vice President Allan Haywood and David MacDonald, secretary-treasurer of the United Steelworkers of America, returned on the same boat and participated in the joint press conference with the AFL spokesmen.

COOPERATION

"The two delegations acted unitedly," said President Green. "I can truthfully say that there is real international unity between both groups because we agreed so thoroughly on all proposals. We are both satisfied with the work done, and the sound actions taken." Secretary Meany stated that "the kind of unity we have achieved on the international front should help achieve unity between the AFL and CIO on the domestic front." Secretary Meany said that the international confederation would make possible "a real fight against communist influence the world over." He said:

"The fight against communism will go on, through the international confederation of free trade unions, right inside the iron curtain countries. There were many delegates at the London conference from Soviet-occupied lands and we intend to maintain liaison with the democratic elements that remain in those iron curtain countries."

FRANCO HIT

Secretary Meany also declared that one of the most important steps taken by the conference was "the action against dictator Franco which should be of great encouragement to Spanish workers who are fighting fascism."

The delegation agreed that the biggest job would be to initiate real support for the "point four," bold new program, to aid foreign countries raise their living standards with U.S. help and know-how, and it was President Green who disclosed that wide cooperation had been pledged in the international confederation to a program to implement point four.

A meeting of the confederation's executive board is to be convened in the next few months when application for consultative status will be made to the United Nations.

Two other AFL delegates, Vice President Matthew Woll and President David Dubinsky of the International Ladies Garment Workers returned Dec. 26 on the Queen Elizabeth. They remained behind for special missions to Paris and Geneva on behalf of the AFL.

The Union Label is the emblem of the greatest industrial-peace movement in the world.

LABOR COUNCIL NOTES

Monterey County Central Labor Union, Salinas, California
GAROLD F. MILLER, Secretary

All delegates to the Monterey County Central Labor Union at Salinas are urged to be on hand this Friday night for the council's first meeting since December 16, the meetings during the holidays being cancelled. A good number of important communications and other matters will be up for action at the meeting.

At the last meeting of the council, delegates to the World Affairs Committee meeting at Pacific Grove reported that the group voiced the opinion that the United States Government should keep out of China and its revolutionary war and should not give financial support to Nationalist armies.

The question of a new Labor Temple for Salinas was debated at length and a thorough investigation of various plans was ordered. Report will be given at this week's meeting.

Donation of \$25 to the McLain committee fund which has fought for broader pensions for the aged and blind was voted by the council.

Laborers Union 272 reported a donation made by this organization to the county Tuberculosis Association campaign.

TOBIN TO CONTINUE AID TO HANDICAPPED

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin pledged the continued support of the Labor Department to the program for the physically handicapped.

The Secretary said that during the month of October the public employment service offices had placed 21,120 handicapped workers, including 10,400 disabled veterans. "This total," he said, "is the highest monthly total for the year, and an increase of some 5,700 over September placements."

Since September, 1945, Tobin stated that approximately 900,000 handicapped workers have been placed by the Employment Service and the active file of disabled veterans looking for jobs reduced from 190,000 in October, 1946, to 70,000 three years later.

"We do not ask employers to hire handicapped workers as a matter of sympathy," Mr. Tobin said. "We ask them to do so in their own best interest, because the handicapped can deliver the goods."

Teamsters Seek Pacts with Packers

Pittsburgh (FP).—Contract talks with the Big Four meat packing companies—Swift, Cudahy, Armour and Wilson—were begun here with the Joint Council of Teamsters (AFL) making its first bid for councilwide agreements covering several thousand truck drivers in western Pennsylvania.

The union is seeking wage increases for drivers in outlying cities to bring their pay up to the Pittsburgh scale. Local 249 Pres. Thomas L. Fagan said other demands called for changes in load limits and helpers on trucks.

The Union Label is like a beacon light in the world's stormy economic seas.

Hiway Dept. Job Awards Given Out

Acceptance of contracts for the following small jobs has been announced by the Highway department:

Orange County—Contract for cleaning and painting the steel spans of three bridges across Anaheim Bay, North Arm Newport Bay and Newport Beach Channel, at Seal Beach and at Newport Beach, at an approximate cost of \$1,774. Blakely Brothers Corp., Contractor. Accepted 12-21-49.

Mendocino County—Contract for repairing a bridge across Big River about 12.4 miles south of Fort Bragg, at an approximate cost of \$17,090. Metzger Co., Contractor. Accepted 12-21-49.

Los Angeles County—Contract for landscaping between Soto Street and Eastman Avenue at an approximate cost of \$46,750. Huetig and Schromm, Contractor. Accepted 12-21-49.

Los Angeles County—Contract for the construction of about 6.7 miles of State Route 4 between 0.3 mile north of Los Alamos Creek and 2.3 miles south of Route 59, at an approximate cost of \$968,661. Peter Kiewit Sons Co., Contractor. Accepted 12-21-49.

Mendocino County—Contract for painting bridges across Gualala River, Gennan Gulch, Garcia River, and Albion River, at an approximate cost of \$17,220.50. D. E. Burgess Co., Contractor. Accepted 12-21-49.

Yolo County—Contract for the construction of about 0.7 mile at Saltroyer and Salt Creeks at an approximate cost of \$44,453.16. O'Connor Bros., Contractor. Accepted 12-21-49.

Siskiyou County—Contract for the construction of about 7.8 miles of State Route 3 between Camp Lowe and Bailey Hill at an approximate cost of \$303,467.43. A Teichert & Son, Inc., Contractor. Accepted 12-22-49.

AFL HEAD CRITICIZES S. C. WORKMEN'S AID

Columbia, S. C.—Earle R. Britton, president of the South Carolina Federation of Labor, criticized Gov. J. Strom Thurmond for his failure to give labor representation on the state industrial commission which administers workmen's compensation.

"Workmen's compensation has been a political football in South Carolina ever since we have had it," Mr. Britton told a legislative investigating committee. "Governors in the future should look for competent people to administer the law."

TOBIN HEADS COMMITTEE

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin has accepted the chairmanship of the District of Columbia observance of Brotherhood Week in February sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

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Salinas Union Directory

BAKERS 24—Meets 3rd Saturday at Labor Temple at 3:30 p.m. Bus. Agt. and Main Office: Cecil Bradford, 896 Bellomy Ave., Santa Clara, phone AXminster 6-3625; office: San Jose Labor Temple, phone CYpress 3-7537.

BAILEYS 627—Meets 3rd Tuesday at Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., at 8 p.m. Pres., H. Lee Elder, 285 Main St., phone 3417; Sec., N. H. Freeman, 36 W. Alisal St., phone 4633.

BAITENDERS 545—Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at 1 p.m. at Salinas Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St. Sec.-Bus. Agt., Al J. Clark, 117 Pajaro St., phone 4633. Pres., Virgil K. Knight, office 117 Pajaro St. Phone 4633.

BUTCHERS 506 (Salinas Branch)—Meets 1st Monday at Carpenters Hall at 8 p.m. Pres., Clark E. Bannett, 1209 1st Ave., phone 2-0720. Bus. Agt., E. L. Courtwright, 1881 Jonathan Ave., San Jose, CYpress 5-3849. Hollister-Gilroy Officers: Pres., Richard Santa, 122 Vine St., Hollister, phone 392; Sec.-Sec., Harold Johnson, Rte. 2, Box 139, Hollister, phone 4375.

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABORS—C. J. Haggerty, Secretary and Legislative Representative, 402 Flood Bldg., 870 Market St., San Francisco 2, phone SUther 1-2836. District Vice-President, Thomas A. Small, office at 308 Seventh Ave., San Mateo, phone DIamond 3-6984. Av. San Mateo, phone DIamond 3-6984.

CARPENTERS 925—Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Carpenters Hall. Pres., Tom Mill; Fin. Sec. and Bus. Agt., Harvey Baldwin, 556 San Benito, phone Salinas 6716. Rec. Sec., A. O. Miller, Hall and office, 1422 N. Main St., phone 9293.

CARPENTERS 1279 (King City)—Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays at King City Carpenters Hall. Pres., Floyd Hall; Sec., A. W. Reiger, 411 South San Lorenzo Ave., phone 694W; office phone 197.

CARPENTERS AUXILIARY 373—Meets 2nd Tuesdays, Carpenters Hall, 8 p.m. Pres., Mrs. Herbert Nelson, 32 Paloma St., phone 5187; sec., Mrs. Frank Wenzinger, 146 Afton Rd., phone 21156; Bus. Agt., Mrs. Lewis Ball, 140 Linden St., phone 4503. Office at Carpenters Hall, 422 N. Main, phone 9293.

CENTRAL LABOR UNION (Monterey County)—Meets every Friday at 8 p.m. at 117 Pajaro St. Pres., Carl Lara; Sec.-Treas., Harold Miller, office at Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., phone 4938.

CULINARY ALLIANCE 467—Meets 2nd Monday at 2:30 p.m. and 4th Monday at 8:00 p.m. at Salinas Labor Temple. Pres., Alan Meeks; Sec., Bertha Boles. Office, 117 Pajaro St., phone 6209.

DRY CLEANERS 258-B—Meets 2nd Thursday at 117 Pajaro St., Salinas, at 8 p.m. Pres., Louie Vistalli, 664 Terrace St.; Sec.-Treas., Josephine Jones, 674 E. Market, phone 2-0871; Receiver, Lawrence Palacios, 2940 16th St., San Francisco, phone MA. 1-3336.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS 243—Meets 1st Wednesdays; Executive Board, 3rd Wednesday, 117 Pajaro St. Pres., Alvin Esser, Baldwin Trailer Court, phone 2-3273. Fin. Sec. and Bus. Mgr., Karl E. Ozols, office 117 Pajaro St., phone 2-2886.

ENGINEERS (Stationary) 39—Meets 3rd Wednesdays, alternating between Salinas and Watsonville Labor Temples, 8 p.m. Pres., Frank Branley; Sec., Leo J. Derby; Mgr., C. C. Fitch; Bus. Agt., R. A. Christensen, Rm. 483, Porter Bldg., San Jose, phone CYpress 2-6393. Main office, 3004 16th St., San Francisco, phone UNDERhill 1-1135.

FISH CANNERY WORKERS UNION OF MOSS LANDING—Meets at Castroville Community Hall on the "light of the moon" each month. Sec., Bill Gray, 257 Fifth, Richmond; Bus. Agt., Theo. Thompson, Moss Landing, phone 8372.

JOINT EXECUTIVE BOARD, Bartenders 545 and Culinary Alliance 467—Meets 2nd Wednesdays 2 p.m. at Labor Temple. Pres., Bertha A. Boles, phone 6209; Sec., A. J. Clark, 117 Pajaro St., phone 4633.

LABORERS 272—Meets 2nd Monday at 8 p.m. at 117 Pajaro St. Pres., R. Fenchel, 146 Hitchcock Rd., phone 5810, office 6939. Sec., J. F. Mattos, 102 Toro, phone 6777. Bus. Agt., J. B. McGinley, Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., phone 6777.

LATHERS 122—Meets in Salinas Labor Temple 2nd and 4th Fridays, 8 p.m. Pres., Roy R. Benge, Hillby St., Monterey, phone Monterey 4820. Sec.-Treas., Dean S. Seefeldt, 526 Park St., Salinas, phone 9223.

LAUNDRY WORKERS 258—Meets 3rd Thursday at Salinas Labor Temple, at 7:30 p.m. Pres., Hazel Skewes, 1314 2nd Ave., Sec.-Treas., Grace MacGossie, 59-1st Ave., Receiver, Lawrence Palacios, 2940 16th St., San Francisco, phone MA. 1-3336. Office, 117 Pajaro St., phone 6209.

MECHANICS AND MACHINISTS 1824—Meets 1st Tuesday; Executive Board, 2nd Thursday, Labor Temple, 8 p.m. Pres., Norman F. Kephart, 133 Avis Court, Fin. Sec., L. W. Parker, 1429 Wren St., phone Salinas 9494.

NEWSPAPER WRITERS AND REPORTERS 22279—Meets on call at Labor Temple, 2111 Webster St., Oakland. Pres., Chas. L. Waite, 5923 Occidental St., Oakland, phone OLYmpic 2-3102. Sec.-Treas., Jean Johnson, 5453 Claremont Ave., Oakland, phone OLYmpic 3-0720.

PAINTERS 1104—Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 117 Pajaro St., 7:30 p.m. Pres., John J. Warburton, 102 1/2 Conley, phone 3169. Rec. Sec., Peter Greco, 38 Marion, phone 2-1509. Fin. Sec. & Bus. Rep., Carl Lara, 27A McGinley Way, phone 8544; office, 117 Pajaro St., phone 8783.

PLASTERERS 763—Meets 4th Thursday, Labor Temple, 8 p.m. Pres., Nicholas Christner, 502 Lincoln; Sec. and Bus. Agt., C. R. Pendergrass, 210 Dennis, phone 2-1553.

PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS 503—Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Salinas Labor Temple. Vice Pres., Oscar Joseph. Fin. Sec., Robt. Grimes. Bus. Agt., John E. Turnbow, 49 Pearl St., phone 2-3654. Office at 117 Pajaro St., Salinas, phone 2-3517. Ev. Bd. meets each Wednesday night, 117 Pajaro St.

POSTAL CARRIERS 1046—Meets every 3rd Wednesday, Civic Club, 8 p.m. Pres., Elmer W. Gipe, 1236 Circle Dr., phone 6102. Sec., H. C. Schelke, 636 El Camino Real No., phone 7080.

PRESSMEN 328—(Monterey Bay Area Printing Pressmen & Ass'ts. Union)—Meets 3rd Monday of month at Salinas at 8 p.m. Pres., Harry Wingard, 950 Colton, Monterey; Sec., R. Meders, 151 Toro Ave., Salinas.

RETAIL CLERKS 839—Meets 2nd Wednesday, Women's City Club, 8 p.m. Pres., Lawrence Vestal, 12 Glenview Court, phone 6624. Sec. and Bus. Agt., Harold Miller, 212-19th St., Pacific Grove, phone 3130. Office at 117 Pajaro St., phone 4938.

ROOFERS 50—Meets 2nd Friday, Watsonville Labor Temple, 8 p.m. Pres., Donald King, 106 Irving, Monterey, phone 3014; Sec. and Bus. Agt., Wm. Powell, 1027 Madrone, Seaside, phone 21266.

SHEET METAL WORKERS 304—Meets 1st Friday alternately at Monterey, Hawthorne and Prescott streets, and at Salinas at Carpenters Hall, 1422 N. Main St., and at Watsonville and Santa Cruz. (This local has jurisdiction over Monterey and Santa Cruz counties.) Pres., John Alsop, P.O. Box 317, Pacific Grove, phone 7825. Rec. Sec., Ray Kalbal, Box 250, Boulder Creek; Fin. Sec., R. W. Beckenhower, Box 815, Watsonville; Bus. Rep., Harry Foster, Box 424, Marina. Office phone Monterey 6744.

STATE COUNTY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES 420—Meets on call. Pres., H. E. Lyons, 15 West St., Salinas; Sec.-Treas., W. P. Karcich, 20 Natividad Rd., Salinas, phone 2-2691.

SUGAR REFINERY WORKERS 20618—Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays, Firemen's Hall at 8 p.m. Pres., Frank Hughes, Spreckels. Sec.-Treas., Robert S. MacRossie, Spreckels, phone 3064. Rec. Sec., Louis Ferreira.

TEACHERS 1020—Meets on call. Sec. Fred Clayson, 70 Robley Road, Corral de Tierra, Salinas, phone 3045.

THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES AND MOTION PICTURE OPERATORS 611—Meets 1st Tuesday every month at 9:30 a.m. at Watsonville Labor Temple. Pres., Geo. Smith, 1122 Garner St., Salinas; Bus. Agt., James Wilson, 228 Peyton St., Santa Cruz, phone 1216; Sec., Dave Green, P.O. Box 584, Watsonville, phone Watsonville 757.

TYPOGRAPHICAL 543—Meets last Sunday of month alternating between Salinas and Watsonville. Pres., D. R. Harrison. Sec.-Treas., A. C. Davis, 109 Prospect St., Watsonville, phone 959.

GENERAL TEAMSTERS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS 890—Meets 2nd Tuesday at Salinas High Auditorium, 8 p.m. Pres., Albert A. Harris, 247 Paloma; Sec., Peeter A. Andrade, Bus. Agt., Wm. G. Kenyon, phone 2-0437. Office, 274 E. Alisal St., Salinas, phone 5743.

AFL Cements Relations With Dutch



Washington.—AFL Vice-President Dan W. Tracy (right), president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, talks with J. J. A. Berger of the Central Union Transport Workers Union of the National Trade Union of The Netherlands during luncheon given by AFL officials for 13 visiting Dutch trades unionists. Next to Mr. Berger is J. J. DeWit, president of the office and store clerks union of the Catholic Labor Movement of The Netherlands, and at the reader's left is D. W. Ormel, of the office and store clerks union of the Christian National Trade Union of The Netherlands. The three responded to Mr. Tracy's welcome on behalf of their respective national trade union centers.

HERE'S HOW RENT LOBBY NICKED YOUR POCKETBOOK

(From The Lather, Dec. 1949)

We can't keep your rent from rising. But we can at least explain why it's going up. After that it will be up to you. You, and the other members of your union, the other families on your street, can take care of the people responsible for picking your pocket and handing you what amounts to a pay cut. You can do it with your little ballot in November, 1950.

Here's the story:

A few months ago the landlord lobby renewed its assault on the last remaining citadel protecting the cost of living—rent control. It demanded and got from Congress a change in the rules of the game.

Before this change a landlord had to show that he had made "major capital improvements," or that other rents for similar space in the neighborhood were substantially higher, before he could hike your rent.

After this change he could get permission to boost your rent by showing that he wasn't getting what they call a "fair net operating income." Graciously the rent control people at Washington decided that this should be 25 per cent of his investment, whether or not he was repairing the steps, or painting the place, or keeping the plumbing in shape.

Under this change in the rules hundreds of thousands of workers' families are now facing a choice between eviction or paying higher rent, in Cincinnati alone over 2000 petitions from landlords who want to hop on the gravy train were received by the rent control office in the last two weeks of July.

Next step in this wholesale pocket-picking operation was for Congress to write into the law a clause giving cities and states the power to decontrol rents. The landlord lobby figured it would be even easier to buy decontrol from city councils and state legislatures than from the U. S. Congress.

As a result of this move, 118 communities had rent controls lifted by local government. Four states passed decontrol laws. This wasn't enough to please the landlord lobby. City councilmen and state legislators were living too close to the irate tenants and didn't dare lift the lid.

So now comes the latest blow. Speaking on August 17 before a convention of disabled vets in Cleveland, Mr. Tighe E. Woods, Housing Expediter, announced that on or before October 1 the rent ceiling will be taken off in 350 of the 1000 counties still remaining under rent control.

The reason, said Mr. Woods, is that Congress slashed his rent control budget from \$26 million to \$17.5 million, or 35 per cent. Congress made this cut although it knew full well the work load of rent control offices had increased by as much as 50 per cent as landlords fought to get into line for those "fair net operating income" increases, and as tenants pleaded for continued ceilings.

That cut in the budget, amounting to \$8.5 million, is a typical example of the way the "economy bloc" in the Congress "saves" money for the taxpayers. They "save" \$8.5 million by a slash which will cost the tenants many times that amount.

Obviously, the landlord lobby decided it could accomplish through budget-chopping what it had failed to accomplish by changing the rules and by opening the way for cities and states to raise rents. By pulling the strings on its Charlie McCarthy friends in Congress (one of the lobby's warmest friends is actually named McCarthy, the senator from Wisconsin) it saw a chance for a triple squeeze play:

Squeeze a few million out of the rent control budget.

Squeeze the rent control offices by forcing fewer people to handle a growing load, making necessary the 35 per cent wholesale decontrol move.

Squeeze more dough out of you by giving the landlord a free hand to charge what the traffic will bear.

Who is responsible for this high-level pocket-picking operation?

You can blame the landlord lobby in part, for they certainly master-minded the play.

But mostly you can blame those pusillanimous members of the United States Congress who use their votes to take money out of the pockets of the many to fill the wallets of the few.

And who are the watchdogs for the landlord lobby?

Why, they're the Dixiegops again! the GOPsters and the poll-taxers. The Tafts and the Rankins. That same coalition which refused to repeal Taft-Hartley, which killed the President's civil rights program, the Brannan plan and 80 per cent of the Fair Deal program.

When the rent goes up as a result of these shenanigans, don't rest at cussing the landlord. Go down to the Board of Elections and register to vote. You can help take care of the guy responsible by getting your friends and neighbors to the polls in 1950.

Brotherhoods Win

Chicago—Four rail brotherhoods settled their dispute with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad. Under the agreement, 413 claims and grievances, including time claims, reinstatements, changes in working rules and other matters were ironed out to the satisfaction of both parties.

Jury System Hit

Rochester, N.Y.—The anti-labor stacked jury system of Monroe County is under fire from the Rochester AFL, which is pressing for a sweeping investigation. Early action on the Rochester AFL's demand has been promised by Val H. Rauber, minority Democratic leader in the Monroe County board of supervisors.

HEY, BOSS!

New York.—The American worker's high production is due largely to the fact that he actually uses more minutes of every hour he is on the job than is the case in the United Kingdom.

That is the impression gained by Francis G. Mulligan, tailor's presser of Coop & Co. of Wigans, Lancs., following his 6 weeks' tour of the United States with a United Kingdom productivity team.

Bits Of Humor

Before you question your wife's judgment too critically, you should remember that she married you.

And if we don't get a few laudatory comments from wives for that one we'll be disappointed.

Or try to dig up more like this: A child, asked to give a definition of "widow," said: "A widow is a woman who lived with her husband so long he died."

"Miss P-B, an attractive young secretary, was involved in an accident while driving near National City. The area in which she was injured is spectacularly scenic."

And one more: "One of our former representatives is retiring from active duty. He is hale and hearty at age 60 and says he expects to enjoy a little peach and quiet."

Milton Maxwell told us about the sign put up by one of his butchers, "OUR WURST IS THE BEST."

A clerk at the employment agency liked to have his little joke occasionally at the expense of the applicant.

"Where were you born?" he asked Michael.

"Faith, in the old County Down."

"Whatever for?" the clerk asked wittily.

"At such a time," Michael answered, "twas me dutiful wish to be with me mother."

"Say, that chorus girl you introduced me to seemed a pretty hard type."

"Hard? Why, a diamond is the only thing that makes an impression on her."

Little Willie, once in ire Threw his sister in the fire. Mother said, above the screams, "Willie's nicer than he seems."

If the gals on the television screen look good to you, you've had enough to drink.

Tom Rotell got a pair of socks for Christmas and the next day he wore them out to the golf course and made a hole in one.

Santa must have been good to that stenographer, her stockings certainly are well filled.

Joe Dodge needed some brick-laying work done on his new fireplace so he phoned the Masonic lodge and asked them to send out a couple of free masons.

A difficult parental problem And a sequence unforeseen, Is how to make the baby sleep When she has reached eighteen.

Metal Trades Set For Big Convention In Portland Jan. 16

Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Convention, scheduled to convene in Portland on Jan. 16, promises to be one of the most interesting meetings to date, according to Tom Rotell, District Council secretary. Rotell says that credentials have been pouring in, indicating that there is a lot of interest and that the convention will be well-attended.

Rotell reports that the San Francisco office of the District Council will be closed as of the 12th of January. He urged that all affiliates which have not yet done so, get in their credentials and per capita before that time. The San Francisco office will probably be open again by Jan. 23. In the interim, headquarters of the council will be at the Bollermakers Building in Portland, which also will be convention headquarters.

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Unemployment Up

Washington—Nearly a half million more workers were drawing unemployment compensation in early December than in early October, the Labor Dept. reported. The first week in October new claims were 309,000, and had gone up to 368,000 nine weeks later. Continued claims had risen from 1,768,000 to 2,247,000 in the same period.

Idle Insurance Is Inadequate

The unemployment insurance program "does not sufficiently protect the worker," Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin told the Federal Advisory Council of the Labor Department's Bureau of Employment Security at a recent assembly in Washington.

The Council met on December 15 and 16 to discuss proposals for strengthening the Federal-State insurance program.

TOO MANY RULES

"Only about one-sixth of the wage loss of unemployed workers is being compensated," Tobin said. "The fact is that this program is hurt by a diversity of statutes which befuddle workers and put employers to extra cost. Trends as to disqualifications and financing are subverting the entire system."

"Benefits should be enough to enable the eligible worker to meet his nondeferable expenses—food, rent, heat, light. It has been established that, for this purpose, a single person requires at least half of his former wages, and a person with dependents more. Yet average benefits for the country as a whole are only slightly more than a third of average wages, mainly because of limitations on maximum benefits."

INCREASE NEEDED

Tobin pointed to the recent "recession" as evidence that the program must be made "more realistic." He went on: "If we should

ever have a real depression, the effect might very well be that of making a mockery of all we had hoped for from an enterprise to temper the human and economic consequences of such a disaster."

William Haber, chairman of the Federal Advisory Council, announced that a council subcommittee will study proposals for approving proposed Federal standards to increase benefits to unemployed covered workers, increase the length of time workers receive benefits, and establish a Federal reinsurance fund to assist States whose reserves for payment of benefits are endangered by insolvency.

NLRB Okays Unfair List; Struck Work

Washington.—The National Labor Relations Board in close split decisions upheld the right of AFL unions to put "unfair" employers on "do not patronize" lists and to refuse to handle struck work.

Three members of the board ruled that a union could legally make and enforce agreements not to handle "struck work" or "hot cargo." The board dropped a secondary boycott charge against an AFL Teamsters Union local whose members refused to work for Conway's Express, Pittsfield, Mass., or to handle freight from its trucks.

3-2 SPLIT

Again three members of the labor relations board voted to uphold the "do not patronize" lists of AFL unions in a case involving the Denver Building and Construction Trades Council. The majority held that the use of the "unfair list" against Grauman Co., Denver, is "comparable to direct picketing of an employer's plant in an effort to publicize the dispute and is a traditional weapon used by labor organizations in direct support of primary labor dispute."

NEW CHAOS

But the board, in another 3-2 split, created new chaos in the internal affairs of unions in a case involving the AFL American Federation of Grain Millers Local 153 representing workers at the Union Starch and Refining Co., Granite City, Ill.

The Grain Millers had obtained the discharge of three workers who offered to pay dues and initiation fees but refused to attend a union meeting at which they were to be sworn as members. Trial Examiner Horace A. Ruckel had held that the workers were obligated to fulfill the initiation duties but the board overruled him. The majority said that if workers pay dues they can still keep their jobs even if they fail to comply with other union conditions.

Good News: FOR TENANTS —AND PAINTERS

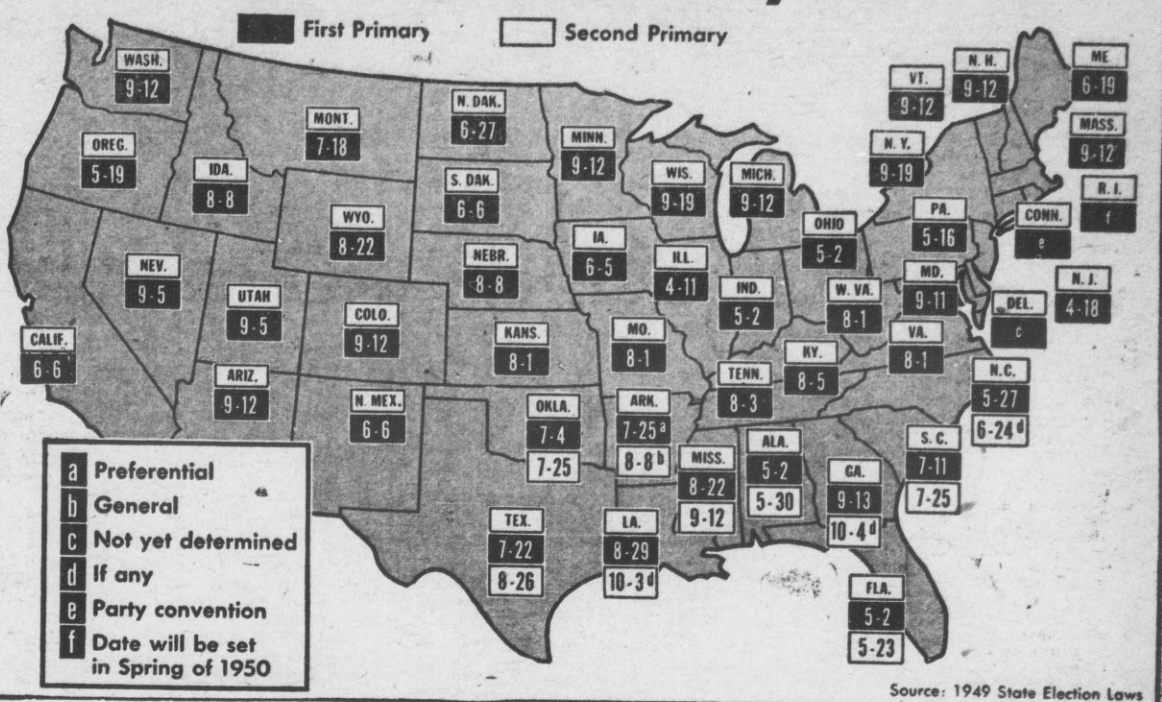
New York—Starting Jan. 15, 1950, New York landlords must resume the prewar practice of painting and decorating apartments every two years.

Ever since March 15, 1943, when rent controls became effective, they have been relieved of this obligation.

Announcing the order, Regional Housing Expediter John J. Pendergast pointed out that "the wartime and postwar painting and decorating policy in New York City—based upon a minimum of three years—was necessitated by several factors, the most urgent of which was the lack of labor and materials. This condition no longer exists."

Under the new regulations a landlord is given 45 days from the date of receipt of the tenant's request to redecorate. If he refuses, Pendergast said: "Reductions in rent would be made retroactive to the date of the tenant's written request to the landlord."

Dates of 1950 Primary Elections



Source: 1949 State Election Laws

Taft Act Cost Machinists Nearly \$90,000,000 During 1949—Hayes

(From The Machinist)

Operation of the Taft-Hartley Act cost IAM members almost \$90,000,000 during 1949, IAM President Al Hayes charged this week. Mr. Hayes made the charge in releasing the 1949 box score on results of collective bargaining by IAM Lodges this year. The report shows that IAM members won raises amounting to \$78,500,000 in 1949 as compared with \$168,000,000 won by IAM members during 1948. That is a decline of \$89,500,000.

It was the Taft-Hartley Act, and not economic conditions, which was primarily responsible for the smaller increases in take home pay won this year, Mr. Hayes declared. Most corporations in most industries have had the best or second best profit year in all history. Corporation dividends this past year have been greater than ever before.

The IAM president pointed out that members of the Machinists Union have done as well or better than those in many other industries. "Many industries failed to grant any increase at all in take-home pay this year," he pointed

out. "What has been accomplished, has been done despite sharply stiffening resistance from many employers who are taking every advantage that the Taft-Hartley Act gives them at the bargaining table."

The \$78,500,000 total represents the cash amount of the wage increases won in negotiations this year, over and above additional improvements in working conditions, such as health and welfare programs, group insurance, longer paid vacations, paid holidays, higher second-shift differentials, sick leave, improved classifications and other fringe benefits. The cash value of the fringes won in IAM negotiations this year is estimated at 3 to 4 cents an hour.

The biggest single collective bargaining victory of 1949, Mr. Hayes pointed out, was the new national wage agreement negotiated by the non-operating railway labor organizations, including the IAM. These negotiations, which are not hampered by the Taft-Hartley Act, brought a 7-cent hourly increase in take home pay to 90,000 railroad machinists, helpers and apprentices who are members of the

IAM. This meant a total increase of approximately \$13,100,000 in take home pay over the year.

In addition, railroad employees won their long-overdue 40-hour week, a reduction of eight-hours in the workweek with proportionate increase in hourly rates.

Government machinists, employed in the Navy Yards, Arsenals and Air Force Depots around the country won increases that added approximately \$2,250,000 to their wage envelopes, N. P. Alifas, president of IAM District 44 reported.

Average 1949 increases for other IAM members amounted to 6.7 cents an hour. Actually, about one in four members failed to win any increase in take-home pay during 1949, the report showed.

In making public this report, Mr. Hayes expressed the hope that every IAM member will be reminded every time he opens his pay envelope of what the Taft Hartley Act is costing him and his family. "Maybe now," he said, "we will begin to understand the job that has to be done next November at the ballot box to retire the supporters of the Taft-Hartley Act from Congress."

BRITISH WORKER HAS LONGER WEEK, EARNS LESS OVERTIME

The British worker in manufacturing industries works a longer week than does the American worker. Statistics of the Ministry of Labor shows that workers in manufacturing, building, transport, mining, utilities and national and local government employment had an average work week of 45.3 hours, as compared to an average work week of manufacturing labor in the United States of 40 hours.

SMALL OVERTIME

Overtime pay in Britain customarily starts at 44 hours, with time and one-fourth for overtime. This is low, compared to the United States, where overtime usually begins after the basic work week of 40 hours and the rate is time and one-half. Adult male workers in Great Britain average 46.7 work hours per week.

In neither country is the worker paid for his lunch period, but in both countries a morning and afternoon "tea break" or "snack period" is included in paid time, although this is more common in Britain than in the United States.

Since the end of the war, time lost because of industrial disputes has been remarkably low. Only 923,000 man-days were lost through strikes during the first half of 1949. During the same period in the United States the number of man-days lost through work stoppages was 14,700,000. The British

figure is lower than the ones for comparable periods in three preceding years. The British Trade Union Congress has voluntarily retained the war-time compulsory arbitration procedures, and the Government has not been hesitant in making its objections to strikes or lockouts known.

WORK IS HARD

American employers and trade union representatives who have visited the United Kingdom as members of the ECA sponsored Anglo-American Council on Productivity have unanimously asserted, both off and on the record, that the British factory workers work as hard, if not harder, than their American counterparts.

Of course the effectiveness of any workers' efforts is conditioned by such factors as the efficiency of the machinery he uses, the layout of the plant he works in, the amount of mechanical handling of equipment, and other factors beyond his control. One of the most basic of these is the amount of mechanical power at the disposal of the worker. ECA Administrator Paul G. Hoffman has frequently stressed the fact that while each American worker has six horsepower's worth of mechanical power behind him, the British worker has only three.

HERE'S HOW TO GET THAT GOMPERS STAMP

Washington.—AFL stamp collectors and members who want copies of the new Samuel Gompers commemorative issue can obtain them by writing to the Postmaster, Washington, D. C.

The postoffice department announced that anyone desiring first-day cancellations of this new stamp may send as many as 10 self-addressed stamped envelopes to the postmaster at Washington, D. C., together with money order or postal note remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed.

The stamp honoring the AFL's founder and first president will be purple and printed in sheets of 70. It will be placed on sale for the first time on the 100th anniversary of Mr. Gompers' birth on Jan. 27, 1950.

The stamp is 0.85 by 0.98 inches (Famous American size) in dimensions, arranged vertically. The central design is a portrait of Mr. Gompers, framed by a border of colored design with a spray of laurel leaves over the lower left portion. Below the portrait is the name "Samuel Gompers" in white Gothic on a dark background. The denomination "3c" in the same style appears in the lower right corner. Above the portrait in dark Gothic is the wording "United States Postage."

No matter what kind of a "deal" you are trying to get—see that a Union Label is on the deck.

PATRONIZE UNION SERVICES.

Union Aids Swift Plant Survivors

Sioux City, Ia. (FP)—The 20 dead are buried and the injured are slowly recovering from the bomb blast which wrecked the Swift & Co. plant here Dec. 14.

But the members of the United Packinghouse Workers (CIO) who were killed in the tragedy have not been forgotten. A union welfare committee is aiding their survivors.

As one rank-and-filer put it at a membership meeting: "I guess all of us are just sick about those killed down at Swift's . . . Their wives and kids need our help and we're gonna help them."

Meanwhile Iowa State Labor Commissioner M. L. Gilbert has called for more factory inspectors to make sure safety codes are not violated.

"To learn how sadly neglected has been industrial safety for the state of Iowa," he said, "one needs but to make a comparison between the Bureau of Labor and some other state departments. Over \$370,000 is appropriated to prevent diseases of pigs and calves, as against but \$84,000 to carry out the functions of the entire department of labor."

As the probe into the cause of the disaster continued, tales of union heroism were uncovered.

Welfare Plans Key Issues in 1950

Welfare problems will be the big issue in 1950 union negotiations, Rep.-elect John F. Shelley (D, Calif.) told the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco recently.

Shelley, who has resigned his post as secretary of the San Francisco Central Labor Council to take his seat in Congress, said he was making his "last public appearance as a spokesman for organized labor."

While stressing the key part welfare demands will play at the bargaining table, Shelley said he believed government can operate health and welfare pension programs better than can private employers.

"Compulsory insurance is disliked by many," he said, "but sickness may strike at any time without warning, and people must be made to help themselves prepare financially for it."

Set ntion n. 16

ct Metal eduled to Jan. 16, e most in e, accord- ct Council at creden- n, indicat- of interest n will be

the San e District as of the ed that all yet done ntials and ime. The probably 3. In the e coun- lermakers hich also dquarters.

Monterey Union Directory

BAKERS 24—Headquarters at Labor Temple, 72 N. Second St., San Jose; Sec. and Bus. Agt., Cecil L. Bradford, 896 Bellomy Ave., Santa Clara; phone AXminster 6-3625. Office, San Jose Labor Temple, phone CYpress 3-7537.

BARBERS 896—Meets 3rd Wednesday at Bartenders Hall, 315 Alvarado St., at 8 p.m. Pres., L. L. Taylor, 610 Lighthouse, Pacific Grove; Sec., A. H. Thompson, 391 Prescott St., Monterey, phone 4745.

BARTENDERS 483—Meets at 315 Alvarado St. 1st Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.; 3rd Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. Pres., Chas. M. Osterloh, 230 Walnut St., phone 2-1792; Sec. and Bus. Agt., Geo. L. Rice, P. O. Box 354; Carmel; phone 1058-W. Office, 315 Alvarado; phone 6734.

BRICK MASONS 18—Meets 2nd and 4th Fridays, 8:30 p.m. Pres., F. B. Hair, P. O. Box 264, Watsonville; Fin. Sec., M. Real, 154 Eldorado, Monterey, phone 6745; Rec. Sec., Geo. Houde, 208 Carmel Ave., Pacific Grove, phone 315.

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF MONTEREY COUNTY—Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 8 p.m. at 315 Alvarado St., Monterey. Pres., William K. Grubbs, 76 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove; Rec. Sec., Harry Foster, Box 424, Marina, phone Mont. 7002; Bus. Agt., Fred S. Miller, 440 Palo Verde; phone 6113. Office at 315 Alvarado St., Monterey; phone 6744. Mailing address, P. O. Box 611, Monterey. Office hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BUTCHERS 506 (Monterey Branch)—Meets 2nd Wednesday, Culinary Hall, at 8 p.m. Pres., Eddie Capon, 709 Eardley Ave., Pacific Grove, phone 6810; Exec. Sec. and Bus. Mgr., Earl A. Moorhead, Labor Temple, San Jose, phone CYpress 3-0253; Rec. Sec., R. R. Robinson, 66 Via Chular, Mont. 6436; Bus. Agt., E. L. Courtright, 1881 Jonathan Ave., San Jose, CYpress 5-3849.

CALIF. BUILDING & CONSTR. TRADES COUNCIL—Pres., Frank A. Lawrence, Secy.-Treas., Lee Lator, Main office, 474 Valencia Street, San Francisco 3; UNDERHILL 3-0493. Monterey vice-pres., L. T. Long, 117 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove.

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR—C. J. Hagerty, Secretary and Legislative Representative, 402 Flood Bldg., 870 Market St., San Francisco 2, phone SUtter 1-2838. District Vice-Pres., Thomas A. Small, Office at 306 Seventh Ave., San Mateo, phone Diamond 3-6984.

CARPENTERS 1323—Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at 8 p.m. at Carpenters Hall, 778 Hawthorne St., Pres., W. T. Evans, Seaside; Fin. Sec., D. L. Ward, 400 Gibson St., phone 3888; Bus. Rep., Fred S. Miller, phone 6744 or 6726. Office at Carpenters Hall, phone 6726.

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL (Monterey Peninsula)—Meets at 315 Alvarado St., 7:30 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. Pres., E. E. Winters, 381 Central Ave., phone 8035; Sec.-Treas., Wayne Edwards, 823 Johnson Ave., phone Monterey 7622.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS 1072—Meets 2nd Monday at Monterey Moose Hall, 8:00 p.m. Pres., D. B. Crow, 243 Pacific St., phone 3336; Fin. Sec., Andy Lazer; Bus. Agt., Leroy Hasty, phone 4632.

ENGINEERS (Stationary) 39—Meets 3rd Wednesday in Salinas. Pres., Frank Brantley; Sec., Leo J. Derby; Mgr., C. C. Fitch; Bus. Agt., R. A. Christiansen, 463 Porter Bldg., San Jose, phone CYpress 2-6393. Main office, 3004 - 16th St., San Francisco, phone UNDERhill 1-1135.

FISH CANNERY WORKERS—Meets on call at headquarters. Pres., Joseph Perry, 1 Lilac Road, phone 4276. Sec., Roy Humbrecht, 122 18th St., Pacific Grove, phone 9164. Bus. Agt., Les Caveny, Box 215, Seaside, phone 9023. Headquarters: 320 Hoffman Ave., phone 8571.

FISHERMEN (Seine and Line)—Meets monthly on full moon at 2 p.m. at Union Hall. Pres., Thomas P. Flores, 629 Lilly St.; Sec. and Bus. Agt., John Crivello, 927 Franklin St., phone 7713. Office and hall at 233 Alvarado St., phone 3126.

LABORERS 690—Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 315 Alvarado St., 8 p.m. Pres., C. J. DeMent, Secy., S. M. Thomas, P. O. Box 142, phone 2-0215. Bus. Rep., Fred S. Miller, c/o Building Trades Council, phone 6764.

LATHERS 122—Meets in Salinas Labor Temple 2nd and 4th Fridays, 8 p.m. Pres., Roy R. Benge, Hilby St., Monterey, phone Monterey 4820. Sec.-Treas., Dean S. Seefert, 1508 First St., Salinas, phone Salinas 7674.

MOTOR COACH EMPLOYEES 192—Meets 3rd Friday, 4 p.m. and 4 p.m., Bartenders Hall. Pres., Emmet J. Wood, 230 Bentley, Pacific Grove, phone 6864; Sec., Doris Lake, 404 Park Ave., Pacific Grove.

MUSICIANS 616—Meets 1st Sunday of each quarter, 2 p.m., Bartenders Hall. Pres., Don Snell, 161 Lighthouse, phone 8045; Bus. Agt., Lin Murray, 296 Alvarado St., phone 9266. Sec., Don B. Forster, 140 Forest Ave., phone 6166. Office, 140 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove, phone 6166.

NEWSPAPER WRITERS AND REPORTERS 2279—Meets on call at Labor Temple, 2111 Webster St., Oakland. Pres., Chas. L. Waite, 5823 Occidental St., Oakland, phone OLYmpic 2-3102. Sec.-Treas., Jean Johnson, 5463 Claremont Ave., Oakland, phone OLYmpic 3-0720.

PAINTERS 272—Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 315 Alvarado St., Monterey. Pres., Fred G. Zahner, P. O. Box 692, Seaside; Fin. Sec. and Bus. Agt., J. L. Bolin, Box 892, Monterey, phone Monterey 9740. Office phone 6744.

PLASTERERS & CEMENT FINISHERS 337—Meets 1st Friday at 315 Alvarado St., Monterey, 8 p.m. Pres., Wm. Ingram, Sec.-Treas., Dan Williams, phone 3181. Bus. Rep., S. M. Thomas, P. O. Box 142. Office 315 Alvarado St., Monterey, phone 6744.

PLUMBERS 62—Meets 2nd and 4th Friday at Hawthorne & Prescott, at 8 p.m. Pres., Paul Masuen, Carmel, phone 27712; Sec., Edward Weiner, 20 Via Encina, Monterey, phone 2-1310; Bus. Agt., Harry Foster, Box 424, Marina, phone 7002; office phone 6744.

POST OFFICE CLERKS 1292—Meets every other month, Rm. 6, P. O. Bldg., 8:30 p.m., Room 6, P. O. Bldg. Pres., David "Bud" Dougherty, 404 Lighthouse, P. G.; phone 9213; Sec., Dick Miller, 781 Prescott, phone 6292; Bus. Agent, Art Hamill, 1034 Hellam, phone 2-0420. (Mail address, Local 1292, Post Office, Monterey, Calif.)

ROOFERS 50—Meets 2nd Friday, Watsonville Labor Temple, 8 p.m. Pres., Donald King, 106 Irving, Monterey, phone 3014; Sec. and Bus. Agt., Wm. Powell, 1027 Madrone St., Seaside, phone 21266.

SHEET METAL WORKERS 304—Meets 1st Friday alternately at Monterey, Hawthorne and Prescott streets, and at Salinas at Carpenters Hall, 1422 N. Main St., and at Watsonville and Santa Cruz. (This local has jurisdiction over Monterey and Santa Cruz counties.) Pres., John Alsop, P. O. Box 317, Pacific Grove, phone 7825. Rec. Sec., Ray Kalbol, Box 250, Boulder Creek; Fin. Sec., R. W. Beckenhower, Box 815, Watsonville; Bus. Rep., Harry Foster, Box 424, Marina, phone Monterey 6744.

TEACHERS (Monterey County) 457—Meets on call. Fin. Sec., Wayne Edwards, 823 Johnson Ave., Monterey, phone 7622.

THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES AND MOTION PICTURE OPERATORS 611—Meets 1st Tuesday every month at 9:30 a.m. at Watsonville Labor Temple. Pres., Geo. Smith, 1122 Garner St., Salinas; Bus. Agt., James Wilson, 228 Peyton St., Santa Cruz, phone 1216; Sec., Dave Green, P. O. Box 584, Watsonville, phone Watsonville 757.

GENERAL TEAMSTERS, WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS 890—Meets 2nd Thursday, Carpenters Hall, 8 p.m. Pres., Albert A. Harris, 24 Paloma, phone Salinas 5653; Sec., Peter A. Andrade, 274 E. Alisal St.; Bus. Agt., Glenn Wilkerson, Office, 778 Hawthorne St., Monterey, phone 2-0124.

The average worker is more concerned with what his union-earned dollar buys in quality Union Label goods than he is with the value of the franc.

NLRB Rules Crafts Out Of the Lumber Industry

Washington.—Additional proof that the Taft-Hartley law offers no help to craft unions interested in carving craft bargaining units from industrial units was offered by the NLRB Dec. 22 in a case involving the Weyerhaeuser Timber Co. in Oregon.

The NLRB declared its belief "that a separate craft representation is not appropriate for employees in the lumber industry," in view of the integration and specialization which has "foreclosed the existence of distinct and well defined craft work." For the company's operations near Springfield, Ore. the NLRB ordered an election among 630 sawmill and logging workers.

On the ballot will be the Intl. Woodworkers Assn. (CIO) and the United Bro. of Carpenters (AFL). The NLRB in ordering the general poll turned down petitions by the

Intl. Bro. of Pulp Sulphite & Paper Mill Workers and by the Intl. Bro. of Electrical Workers (both AFL) for small craft units. A year ago the NLRB made a similar decision in the steel industry, based on the integration of steel mill operations.

Trades Eye Plans for New Docks

Announcement by the Board of State Harbor Commissioners of plans for a million dollars worth of modernization work on two San Francisco piers is expected to provide jobs for several trades early in 1950.

The Harbor Board is undertaking the dock revamping program in the hope that some of the trade lost to other competing ports can be attracted back to San Francisco by making more efficient cargo handling facilities available.

If the remodeling brings the desired results other piers may get the same sort of rebuilding in the future.

EFFICIENT HANDLING
The second of its type ever to be considered in the history of the waterfront, the new plans call for a quay type pier with a depressed center section of more than 150,000 square feet to be built between Piers 30 and 32, providing tail-gate truck delivery and facilitating rail car operation and general cargo handling.

Plans for the new pier—which is expected to be in operation within a year—are looked upon as a definite step ahead in modernization of San Francisco's port, according to Chamber spokesmen who see greatly increased efficiency in operations of the pier's lessee, Matson Navigation Company.

MATSON AIDED
Matson, long-time occupant of Piers 30 and 32, "recognizing the desirability and efficiency of the quay type operation," has made the construction possible by agreeing to lease the facility for fifteen years and has assisted greatly in the planning stages, according to S. S. Gorman, assistant chief engineer of the Board of State Harbor Commissioners.

"Recent growth of truck traffic to our ports," Gorman said, "has pointed up the advisability of the quay type pier. The first one is being built now at Mission Rock—probably to be in operation early in 1950. Quay type construction at the Matson piers will mean that trucks will get in and out much more quickly, not only cutting down truck costs but also cutting down occupancy time—and cost—of the big ships at the pier."

HOPEFUL
Commenting on the proposed improvement, Walter A. Rohde, manager of Chamber's transportation department, said:

"The new pier will be a boon to our port. It will mean greater operational efficiency of one of our largest steamship companies, and this will work to the advantage of us all.

"Further, these plans represent a vote of confidence by Matson Navigation Company in the future of San Francisco's harbor—confidence of which we all can justly be proud."

As soon as final details of the plans and lease for the new construction are completed, bids will be let, according to the Harbor Board.

Ask Probe of Steel Monopoly Price Increase

Washington.—Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney planned to ask Congress to call officials of U. S. Steel Corp. and other steel companies "to lay the case on the table" for what he feels are unjustified price increases averaging 4 percent and \$4 per ton.

U. S. Steel announced the increase, claiming it is necessary to cover worker pension costs despite the finding by President Truman's steel fact-finding board that the cost of the pension system could be absorbed by the companies without further price increases.

"United States Steel is doing more harm to the American economic system than all the crackpots have ever done," Senator O'Mahoney said. He is chairman of the joint congressional committee on the economic report.

BLAME PENSIONS
The price increase averages about 4 percent for most steel products, and Benjamin Fairless, president of the corporation, said that it was necessitated by the recent increase in freight rates and the cost of the pension plan which the United Steelworkers of America, CIO, recently won from the industry.

"On the record," Senator O'Mahoney said, "the steel industry is not justified in levying an increased tax upon the whole economy of the United States. Let's not deceive ourselves. It would be a tax on our whole system. It would interfere with the stabilization of the economy both here and abroad."

The action, which is expected to be followed quickly by other major companies, may bring moderate price advances in hundreds of consumer articles in which steel is a component, but automotive and appliance manufacturers are reported ready to absorb the higher steel cost.

WHAT IT COSTS YOU
The price advances, the first by a major steel producer since July, 1948, will yield the U. S. Steel about \$80,000,000 annually in additional revenues, an amount equalling the estimated yearly cost to the corporation of the pension-insurance program which settled the recent steel strike.

Some typical examples of the direct effect of a \$4-a-ton steel price increase on consumer products made with the metal are as follows: a rise of about \$8 in the cost of steel for an automobile, 40 cents on a refrigerator, 60 cents on a metal office desk, 27 cents on a large kitchen cabinet, \$3 on a farm tractor, 5.8 cents on a lawn mower and 4 cents on a garbage can.

Alarm Service Employees Strike

Pittsburgh.—Fourteen of 16 operators and maintenance men employed by the American District Telegraph Co., a burglary alarm service, struck here for union recognition and reinstatement of a veteran employee. They said he was fired for being active in organizing the new Operating Department Employees Assn., an independent union. Union Pres. William L. McCloskey said he believed automatic alarm service to about 300 buildings and plants here would be ended by the strike.

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Crank Case Sludge—The crank case of your car should be drained and flushed at regular intervals. During cold weather, moisture in the form of vapor accumulates on the engine cylinder walls. Normally most of this moisture is discharged with the exhaust gas, but in cold weather a certain amount enters the crank case, where it combines with oil to form a harmful sludge.

Courtesy Counts—Traffic accident volume, in the opinion of safety experts, could be cut in half if all drivers observed the rules of sportsmanlike driving, says the California State Automobile Association.

Frozen Battery—Motorists planning winter mountain trips are warned that a weak or nearly discharged automobile battery may freeze and burst when freezing temperature prevails. A fully charged battery will withstand temperatures as low as 80 degrees below zero.

They Beat U. S.!

New Zealand, Australia, Sweden, and Norway all have compulsory health insurance. It is not necessary to argue that their good health record, better than ours although they do not equal our standard of living in most other respects, is due to government health insurance. The opponents of such a system have argued vociferously that government health insurance would inevitably worsen the standard of medical care. The facts show that that is not true.

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MONTEREY

Building Trades Fouled By NLRB-Denham Quarrel

Washington.—The National Labor Relations Board and General Counsel Robert N. Denham have now snarled labor relations in the building and construction trades industry beyond any hope of repair under the Taft-Hartley law.

With the board and Denham hopelessly at odds over administration of the law in the industry, various federal courts have compounded the chaos with a series of conflicting opinions.

Richard J. Gray, president of the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department, said that the only certain way to end the snafu and prevent the industry from grinding to a halt in reams of red tape is to repeal the Taft-Hartley law outright.

"It is the greatest mess of legalistic confusion ever perpetrated," Mr. Gray said.

DISAGREEMENT

The AFL unions and principal contractors had asked Mr. Denham and the National Labor Relations Board to issue a blanket administrative order exempting

the industry from the Taft-Hartley law. The AFL pointed out that Mr. Denham and the board had been unable to conduct the union shop elections which they had requested and to which they were entitled. Yet, the AFL said Mr. Denham and the board are prosecuting the unions for alleged violations of portions of the act which Mr. Denham and the board have failed to administer.

Mr. Denham announced at a December public hearing that he would not hold any union shop elections in the industry. Board Chairman Paul M. Herzog asked Mr. Denham how he could do that? Didn't Mr. Denham know, Mr. Herzog asked, that the federal courts had just ruled that the Board cannot ignore or fail to enforce any portion of the law?

The next act in this farce is now being written. The only happy ending possible is for Congress to repeal outright the Taft-Hartley law which is daily becoming more expensive, onerous and futile than any statute since prohibition.

Bosses "Press" to Get A New News Service

Aware of the growing power of the labor press which reaches an audience of 15 million readers, the National Association of Manufacturers has launched a "service for employee publications" to supply company newspapers with free pictures and stories selling the NAM Way of Life.

The new service is the latest product of the Rockefeller Center-housed NAM publicity office which turns out hundreds of pamphlets, ads and speeches each year as part of this nation's most heavily subsidized employer propaganda venture.

Since 1947 when its propaganda expenses reached an all-time high of \$4,700,000, the NAM has closely guarded from the public the amount it spends. The flood of anti-union literature continues to gush out from the NAM office, however, and into communities, plants, schools, churches and civic organizations all across the U. S.

Further proof of the new emphasis being placed on plant publications by employers came Nov. 22 when editors of 18 company papers received Freedom Foundation cash awards or medals in an elaborate publicity stunt staged in an old barn near Valley Forge, Pa. The FF is the brainchild of New York investment broker, E. F. Hutton, a veteran contributor to anti-labor, and anti-Jewish hate groups, and Don Belding, high-priced advertising man. The plant editors were among 144 persons and organizations handed FF awards for "promoting the American way of life" by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, now the leading spokesman for employers against the so-called welfare state.

Opposition to the welfare state was the main theme of the NAM convention, held at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel early in December, and ran through its slick literature.

Kansas City Carmen Seek Increases

Kansas City, Mo. (FP)—Federal mediators were working to avert a strike of AFL streetcar men here Jan. 1 when the present agreement expires. The workers are asking a wage increase, while the Kansas City Public Service Co. is demanding wage decreases.

Legion Starts Co-op

Blackwell, Okla.—Construction has been started on a 61 single-family unit veterans' cooperative housing project, the first to be started in the state under the American Legion's sponsorship. The project is being built under a provision of the National Housing Act permitting the FHA to finance houses to be built by a non-profit corporation and sold to members of the corporation.

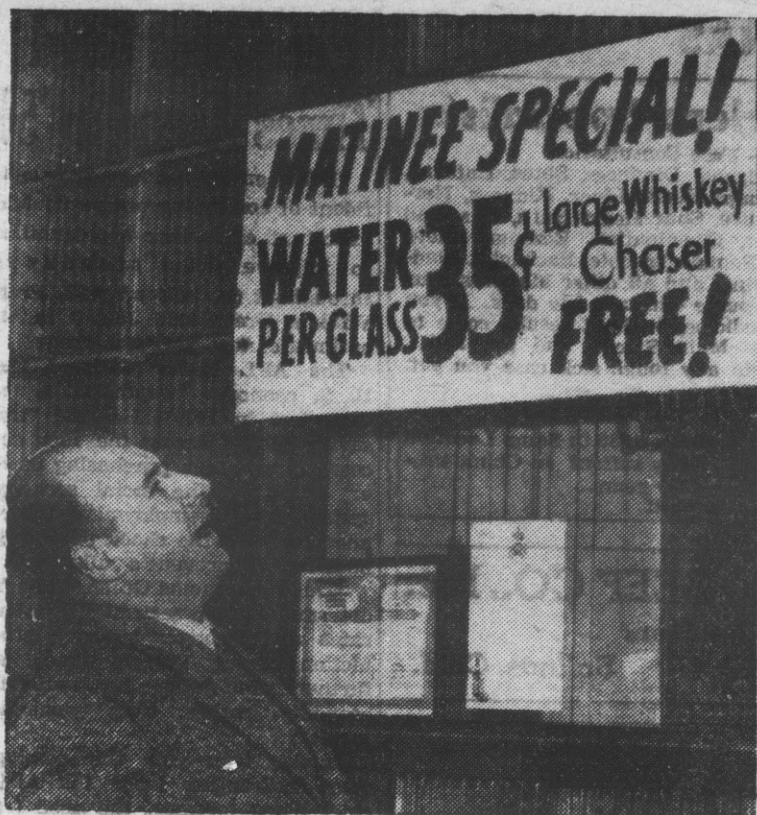
Washington State Idle Pay in Doubt

Whether Washington state unemployment compensation officials will receive federal funds to operate in 1950, or be disqualified for failure to conform to federal law, was still an open question here Dec. 28. A decision by year's end was expected from Labor Sec. Maurice J. Tobin.

The issue on which the state's eligibility to federal funds depends involves regulations under which labor union members were bounced from the compensation rolls because they were members of a union involved in a labor dispute. Union spokesmen and the Labor Department here said the state regulations violate provisions in the federal law, which are supposed to guarantee that the jobless benefit program is not used as a scab-herding operation.

At a hearing here Dec. 12-14, employer spokesmen carried the ball for state officials, claiming the rulings were justified. A similar hearing involving like regulations by California officials ended in an agreement Dec. 21 by spokesmen for the California state government not to continue their old practices, which would force unemployed union members to scab on their brothers or quit the union to retain their eligibility.

Tobin immediately notified California that the issue was settled and the state would receive its federal money for 1950. But two weeks had passed without an apparent move by the Washington state government to conform to the federal law.



WHAT'S THAT?—A Broadway bar met the New York city water shortage in this way. Water, 35 cents per glass, large whiskey chaser free, says the sign in the window. This surprised customer looks like he needs a free drink to bolster him up.

McLain Asks New Pension Session

Charging Federal funds amounting to nine million dollars a month are being withheld by the Federal Social Security Authorities from California, George H. McLain, chairman of the Citizens' Committee for Old Age Pensions, has called upon Governor Warren to reconvene a special session of the State Legislature and solve this emergency which, according to McLain, would, if not solved, throw one hundred thousand pensioners off the aid.

He made this demand in a telegram to the Governor. The text of McLain's telegram to Warren follows:

**"GOVERNOR EARL WARREN
STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO 4, CALIFORNIA**

Your statement that no emergency exists as a result of the passage of Proposition Two regarding Federal conformity has been proven wrong. In behalf of 273,721 aged and blind pensioners—I urge you call a special session of the State Legislature at this time for the purpose of considering laws to bring the State back into conformity with the Federal Social Security requirements.

It is estimated that unless steps are taken by you to this end—over one hundred thousand pensioners will be cut off the rolls as a result of the passage of Proposition Two and those remaining will have their payments cut to forty-five dollars per month and less.

My interpretation of the "wel-

fare emergency financing" under the welfare and institutions code, does not permit the State to advance its funds when Federal authorities have duly notified the State of non-conformity and providing that "only those persons who have resided continuously for at least fifteen years immediately preceding date of application will be eligible."

As was pointed out to you previously your call should be broadened sufficiently to consider the responsible relatives clause, the problem of those 63 and 64, and state administration. With the urgent necessity for this new special session this vitally important legislation could be considered at this time.

**GEORGE H. McLAIN
Chairman
Citizens' Committee for
Old Age Pensions."**

Trainmen Face Big Baggage Men's Suit

Kansas City, Mo. (FP)—The Bro. of Railroad Trainmen (unaffiliated) has been named defendant in a \$2½ million damage suit filed here by about 250 messenger-baggage men who claimed they were forced off their jobs by the brotherhood.

The plaintiffs asserted they had been employed by the Santa Fe railway and had lost their jobs in 1945 as the result of an award by the National Railroad Adjustment Board. The award, which was declared void last year in U. S. district court, gave the trainmen exclusive right to handle baggage.

Suit was filed in U. S. circuit court here.

Short Week Brings Small Takehome

Washington (FP)—A generally shorter workweek in most industries, due both to effects of the steel strike and to seasonal factors, caused the average weekly gross wage in U. S. manufacturing to go down 81 cents between October and November, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said Dec. 28.

BLS found the average factory workweek in November was 39.2 hours, with wages averaging \$54.45 in both durable and nondurable goods industries. Shortest industry workweeks were found in primary metals—37.6 hours, clothing and other finished textile products—36.6 hours, and leather and leather products—36.4 hours.

At the same time, BLS said consumer prices in the same monthly period had risen one tenth of 1 percent. Although down 2 percent from a year ago, the BLS city price index is 26 percent higher than in June, 1946, when price control was killed by Congress.

GOOD RELATIONS GOAL OF UNION INDUSTRIES SHOW

Good relations is one of the important goals of the fifth AFL Union Industries Show which is scheduled for May 6-13 in Convention Hall at Philadelphia. The 1950 show will be 50% larger than the 1949 show in Cleveland, which was 50% larger than the previous one held in Milwaukee.

This unique exhibition is sponsored by the Union Labor Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, and I. M. Ornburn, the secretary-treasurer of the department, acts as director of the show. American consumers will get a big thrill when they see the only exhibition of its kind and the greatest labor-management show on earth.

HIGH-LIGHT

Only the dramatic high-lights of the glamorous eight-day spectacle can be listed. There will be action, color, music and entertainment, in addition to hundreds of educational features for both union goods and services. The admission is free and it is predicted that the crowds at Philadelphia will break all attendance records.

"The 1950 show will include the most dynamic presentation of Union-made goods and most educational demonstration of union services ever witnessed at one of our exhibitions," said the Director, I. M. Ornburn, who added, "Available display space is being rapidly taken up by leading firms as well as national and international unions which are planning to participate in our extensive exposition of Union-made-in-America products and Union-manned services."

"The exhibitors who participate in a Union Industries Show declare that it is the most profitable and best good-will building event in which they have ever taken part." Mr. Ornburn continued, "Mutual understanding such as that exemplified at one of our exhibitions definitely points the way to economic stability, industrial peace and permanent prosperity."

UE Official Praises AFL Wage Policy

Newark, N.J.—Commenting on the AFL's call for wage increases in 1950, Pres. James McLeish of Dist. 4, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers (unaffiliated) said: "The UE is glad to see that the AFL is going out after substantial wage increases."

"The UE has been fighting for substantial wage increases during the past year in addition to pensions and health insurance while other unions have taken a back seat on the question of wage increases."

"The fact that the AFL now recognizes the need for substantial wage increases is an encouraging sign for all workers and can help strengthen our fight for wage increases," McLeish said. Dist. 4 had won wage increases in some 170 shops during 1949 along with pensions and health insurance for tens of thousands.

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Green Sees Good
Times Ahead in '50

"Labor enters the new year confident of continuing prosperity and expectant of further opportunities to improve living standards throughout the nation," AFL Pres. William Green said Jan. 1 in an optimistic new year's message.

The AFL leader declared the U. S. economy "weathered a severe test in 1949". He said "the saving factor during the 1949 recession" was high purchasing power, aided by the social security system, and unemployment insurance to "ease the shock of falling business and prevent a tailspin."

"Thus," continued Green, "labor's determination to seek higher wage rates and stronger security protection during 1950 is aimed at further reinforcing our national economy rather than weakening it."

Among tasks for the coming year confronting labor the AFL chief listed foremost the need for vigorous political action in the 1950 congressional elections. After an election victory, he said, it will then be possible to repeal the Taft-Hartley law and to make progress in social security laws, housing and civil rights.

Green mentioned also the AFL drive to organize a million new workers in 1950, year of the Samuel Gompers centennial celebration by the AFL he founded. Green added that the formation of the Intl. Confederation of Free Trade Unions "should begin to bear fruit during the coming year."

150,000 Vets Have
Bought Cal. Homes

The number of World War II veterans who have established eligibility for the State's low-interest Farm and Home Purchase Program passed the 150,000 mark today with the granting of a certificate to D. R. "Bob" Robinson of Auburn (Placer County).

Robinson is a former Navy officer who served with distinction in the Pacific during a six-year tour of duty beginning in 1941. He holds the Silver Star and numerous campaign ribbons.

PLANS HOME

He plans to build a home in the near future, using the low-cost financing made available to eligible California veterans through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Advantages of the plan include a low rate of interest (currently 3 percent), an inexpensive Home Protection Plan of life insurance, and a substantial saving on fire insurance.

The State advances up to \$7,500 on the cost of a home or \$13,500 on a farm to veterans who qualify under the laws and regulations governing the Farm and Home Purchase Plan. This money is made available by bond issues which are self-liquidating. As the veterans make their monthly payments on their long-term purchase contracts, the payments are applied against redemption of the bonds and also against the administrative expense of the program, so that there is no cost to the taxpayers involved.

A proposal for authority to issue another \$100,000,000 in California Veterans Bonds will be on the primary election ballot on June 6.

Letter Carriers to Start
Building Their Home

Washington.—The AFL National Association of Letter Carriers plan to ask bids about Jan. 1 for a new 8-story building to be used as national headquarters.

The union, headed by AFL Vice President W. C. Doherty, has acquired 6,800 square feet of ground at 1st Street and Indiana Avenue N.W. on which the structure of Georgia marble will be erected.

Hopes are held that contracts may be awarded by the end of January and construction completed in 1951.

Lawrence Reviews
Cal. Trade Progress

By FRANK A. LAWRENCE
General President, State Building
and Construction Trades
Council of California

Another year has passed, highlighted by events of great significance and importance to the labor movement in general and the building trades in particular.

A number of decisions rendered by the courts have been extremely disconcerting to labor with regard to the Taft-Hartley Act. Some of the most discriminatory and objectionable provisions of the Act have been upheld. These restrict the privileges of labor which have been practiced for many years and, if continued, could seriously weaken and eventually jeopardize the very existence of the trade union movement. It is fearful even to anticipate the consequences of the T-H Act in a period of economic recession and unemployment. That is why labor cannot relax in its determined fight to remove this Act from the federal statutes.

TAFT-HARTLEY

In the building industry, the general counsel of the NLRB has asked that Board to waive the Taft-Hartley Act's union shop election requirements because they cannot be applied. Time and again the building trades unions have insisted that the industry's constantly changing employment makes it impossible to hold such elections. Supported by the employers of the industry, both the Building Trades Department of the AFL and this State Council have tried to impress upon the NLRB the futility of this procedure and that large amounts of tax money have been needlessly wasted in trying to carry it out.

Fortunately, employment in the construction industry has been maintained at a high level and the prospects for the next few years are seemingly good. A contributing factor has been the Federal Housing Program which must be implemented on a state and local level. The State Council has constantly emphasized and wishes to reiterate the need for the local building trades councils to give this problem their first attention.

ORG DRIVE

This year witnessed the highly successful organizing convention of the State Building and Construction Trades Council held in Santa Barbara in November. It was truly a representative gathering of the building trades unions in the state. An ambitious program for the expansion of the Council through the furnishing of services to the affiliated organizations was adopted. The per capita tax was cut in half and the staff of the organization

AFL Wants Strong
Labor Department

Washington.—AFL Special Representative Lewis G. Hines told the Citizens' Committee on Government Reorganization that the AFL wants a strong federal labor department and favors some other changes made by the Hoover Reorganization Commission.

But, he said, the AFL has reservations as to some of the particular points covered in the proposals of the commission. He said these included the proposed changes in fixing compensation for government employees and reduction of force.

"We do, however, have a deep and sincere interest in the success of the whole endeavor and are substantially in accord with the bulk of the proposals made," Mr. Hines said. "We particularly favor the recommendations regarding the rebuilding of the labor department and the restoration of its proper functions."

He said the AFL also favors the transfer of the rivers and harbors and flood control activities of the army engineers to the Department of the Interior.

was enlarged. It is our aspiration to press forward this program and to carry out the decisions reached by the convention.

We are confident that with the continued cooperation of the building trades unions we will be very successful in the coming year and equipped to furnish the necessary leadership and guidance to the affiliated organizations in all the difficult situations which may develop.

On this occasion, the State Building and Construction Trades Council wishes to extend to the members of the labor movement its most sincere desire that they enjoy a prosperous and happy New Year.

Union Plans Own
Co-Op Apartments
\$53 Per Month Up

New York.—The AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America announced plans for a cooperative apartment house for 288 families with rents to start at \$53 per month.

A charter for the development was granted by the New York State Housing Commissioner Herman T. Stiehman to the AFL union. The presentation was made to Union Vice President Joseph Belsky.

The project is to be known as the Harry Silver Apartments, in memory of a deceased union member, and will be located in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn.

FIREPROOF

Three 6-story semifireproof elevator apartment houses will be constructed on a land area of 127,000 square feet located centrally in Brooklyn within one-fare zone.

The development will contain 30 apartments with 5½ rooms, 186 with 4½ rooms, 72 with 3½ rooms, with an over-all average of 4.35 rooms. The project cost is estimated at \$2,887,000, which includes 136 garage stalls to be located beneath the apartment buildings.

The maintenance charges will be \$53 per month for 3½ rooms, \$65 for 4½ rooms, \$75 for 5½ rooms, averaging throughout the development to \$14.47 per room monthly carrying charge. The figures do not include gas and electricity, which will be provided by master metering and at a general savings to all the cooperators. The cooperative investment necessary is computed at \$240 per room.

MODEL

A report on the project was made to Harry C. Bates, president of the AFL Bricklayers Union and chairman of the AFL National Housing Committee.

"This development," the Meat Cutters told Mr. Bates, "is being designed to become the leader in progressive future housing developments through the entire state. This is further evidenced by the fact that only 34 per cent of the surface coverage of the lots will be occupied by building units. The remaining 66 per cent of the land is apportioned to the finest landscaping with recessed playgrounds to protect the children from street traffic."

The project will be financed by a 40-year mortgage in the amount of \$2,585,000 at 3½ per cent interest.

Ottumwa Drivers
Strike for Raises

Ottumwa, Ia.—Members of the Amalgamated Assn. of Street & Electric Railway Coach Employees (AFL) struck against the Natl. City Bus Lines here Dec. 27 after a last ditch meeting failed to settle differences.

The union has been demanding a 20c hourly pay boost to raise the minimum to \$1.30.

Some 35,000 residents are normally served by the bus company which employs 35 drivers and eight shopmen.